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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/890,447 Confirmation No.: 3040
Applicant : Yoshikatsu Akiyama
Filed : October 19, 2001
TC/A.U. : 1651
Examiner : Susan Marie Hanley

Docket No. : PK9931
Customer No. : 22840

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

December 16, 2004

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office action of September 22, 2004, in the connection with the prosecution of the caption application, please consider the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 23 of this paper.